

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Claims 1 to 13 are pending. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the acknowledgement of the claim for foreign priority and the indication that all certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

II. Rejection of Claims 1 to 13 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1 to 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,685,065 ("Suzuki et al."). It is respectfully submitted that Suzuki et al. do not render unpatentable claims 1 to 13 for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 relates to a device for energy storage and energy transformation, the device including a first coil former having a winding for connection to a supply voltage, a second coil former having a winding for connection to a high-voltage terminal, a magnetically active I core surrounded by the first coil former and the second coil former, and a peripheral core forming a magnetic circuit with the I core and enclosing a system including the first coil former and the second coil former.

Claim 1 has been amended herein without prejudice to recite that the peripheral core includes a through-recess in a circumferential extension thereof to accommodate an end area of the I core. Support for this amendment may be found, for example, on page 3, lines 21 through 26, on page 4, lines 13 through 15, and on page 6, lines 26 through 29 of the Specification, as well as in Figures 2 and 3.

To reject a claim as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a), the prior art must disclose or suggest each claim feature, and the prior art must also provide a motivation or suggestion for combining the features in the manner contemplated by the claim. (See Northern Telecom, Inc. v. Datapoint Corp., 908 F.2d 931, 934 (Fed. Cir. 1990), cert. denied, 111 S. Ct. 296 (1990); In re Bond, 910 F.2d 831, 834 (Fed. Cir. 1990)).

Suzuki et al. do not disclose or suggest a through-recess in rectangular ring-like core 3, but merely describe a recess 3c, which, as plainly illustrated, does not pass through the entire core, and into which junction 2c of core 2 is fitted (see column 3, line 20; column 3, lines 52 through 54; and Fig. 1 of Suzuki et al.). That is, recess 3c described by Suzuki et al. is a depression. In contrast, the presently claimed subject matter provides for a

through-recess that extends across the entire width of peripheral core 5, providing, *e.g.*, the advantage that the tolerance regarding the length of I core 1 is not critical. Hence, Suzuki et al. do not disclose or suggest all of the features of claim 1. Moreover, the Office Action's assertion that "the specific I-shape of the center core would have been an obvious design consideration for the purpose of facilitating manufacturing and controlling the magnetic flux" is mere hindsight reasoning and fails to demonstrate a requisite motivation to modify Suzuki et al. to provide the claimed features, which the Office Action admits is not disclosed by Suzuki et al. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Suzuki et al. do not render unpatentable claim 1.

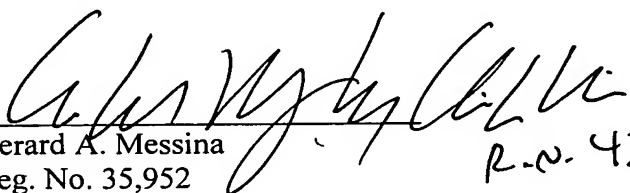
As for claims 2 to 13, which ultimately depend from claim 1 and therefore include all of the features recited in claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that Suzuki et al. do not render unpatentable these dependent claims for at least the same reasons more fully set forth above.

In view of all the foregoing, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn, since it has been obviated. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 25, 2006 By: 
Gerard A. Messina
Reg. No. 35,952 P.N. 42,194

KENYON & KENYON LLP
One Broadway
New York, New York 10004
(212) 425-7200
CUSTOMER NO. 26646